

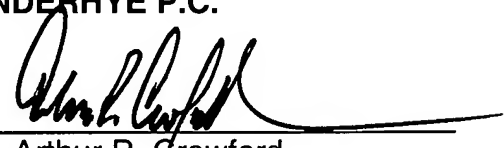
**REMARKS**

Claims 1-6 have been amended to eliminate multiple dependent claims, without prejudice. The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to the parent application.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Arthur R. Crawford  
Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:jsm  
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100